# Book Reviews.

PROGRESSIVE MEDICINE. A Quarterly Digest of Advances, Discoveries and Improvements in the Medical and Surgical Sciences. Edited by HOBART AMORY HARE, M.D. Vol. iv, December, 1901. Diseases of Digestive Tract and Allied Organs: Liver, Pancreas and Peritoneum, Genito-urinary Diseases, Anesthetics, Fractures, Dislocations, Amputations, Surgery of the Extremities and Orthopedics. Diseases of the Kidneys, Physiology, Hygiene, Practical Therapeutic Referendum. Lea Brothers & Co., Philadelphia and New York.

This volume of Progressive Medicine contains an especially valuable résumé of a number of contributions to recent literature on the subject of anesthetics. The discussion of this important adjunct of surgery, at the 30th German Surgical Congress held in Berlin in May, 1901, furnishes abundant material. Mikulicz says that since the collection of Gurlt's statistics with regard to narcosis, matters have changed very much and local anesthesia must always be considered as a possible solution of difficulties connected with general anesthesia. Besides the subject of general anesthesia, the subsidiary questions of the various methods of local anesthesia and of spinal anesthesia receive full discussion.

The chapter on genito-urinary diseases contains some extremely interesting material. The old question of the possibility and of the severtiy of non-specific urethritis is illustrated by recent studies made in connection with microscopic investigations. The question of treatment in gonorrhea is very thoroughly considered and it is announced that while protargol remains the favorite, nargol, a newer preparation, has decided advantages, which are securing recognition. Nargol may be injected in the acute stage, combined with berberine —five grains of nargol and one grain of berberine to the ounce of water, being the beginning dosage.

Dr. Thornton's practical therapeutic referendum at the end of this volume contains some very thoroughly useful prescriptions, some of them containing valuable drugs not well enough known in this country. JELLIFFE.

ARBEITEN AUS DEM NEUROLOGISCHEN INSTITUTE AN DER WIENER UNIVERSITÄT. Herausgegeben von Prof. Dr. Heinrich Obersteiner. Heft viii. Franz Deuticke, Leipzig und Wien, 1902.

Neurologists are very familiar with these "Arbeiten" from Prof. Obersteiner's laboratory in Vienna, and the importance which these publications have acquired is shown by a comparison of this latest and extensive volume with the much smaller first number. One is impressed in reading this latest volume by the attention that has been paid to anatomical and pathological subjects irrespective of their bearing on clinical neurology. There seem to be fewer cases studied both clinically and pathologically than have been contained in former numbers of the "Arbeiten."

Only a few porencephalic brains have been examined microscopically, indeed, only three (Dejerine, Kreuser, Schupfer) according to Obersteiner, and his own case reported as the subject of the leading paper in volume viii of the "Arbeiten," makes four. The reason for this is easy to understand. The scarcity of microscopical investigations is owing partly to the desire to preserve valuable gross specimens, and partly to the great amount of time and labor necessary for careful microscopical study. Obersteiner's case was a most extraordinary example of porencephaly, the extensive openings involving almost symmetrically the middle portion of each cerebral hemisphere. In this case the right optic tract was entirely undeveloped, and yet the nerve fibers in each optic nerve were about equal in number, from which Obersteiner argues that the crossed fibers must about equal the uncrossed fibers in number; an opinion which does not seem to be generally held. In this case the cerebral acoustic tract from the right posterior colliculus of the corpora quadrigemina to the temporal lobe was absent. The case showed that a lesion of the visual fibers within the cerebral hemisphere could cause atrophy of the visual system even as far as the optic nerves; whereas in the acoustic system atrophy from a similar lesion did not extend beyond the corpora quadrigemina. Obersteiner believes that in his case hydrocephalus developed first, and by pressure on the walls of the dilated lateral ventricles and the middle cerebral arteries caused porencephaly.

Nose describes the structure of the normal human cerebral dura. His paper is a preliminary report. Collections of blood corpuscles within the dura, resembling hemorrhages, were found by him in all the cases he studied, they therefore could hardly have been pathological, and yet their significance is unknown.

The case of intradural endothelioma of the upper cervical region reported by Schlagenhaufer is interesting on account of the intense compression of the medulla oblongata it caused without secondary ascending or descending degeneration.

The paper by Steindler is an anatomical study of the velum medullare posterius. This structure is constant in mammalia, and is probably a rudimentary portion of the cerebellum.

Marburg describes the pathology of the spinal ganglion. He has observed cell-bodies of these ganglia with two nuclei. This he regards as abnormal development in embryonal life, and not as pathological. The homogeneous contraction of the nucleus he thinks is distinctly pathological only when it occurs in pathological cells. The eccentric position of the nucleus is always pathological. Marburg discusses in this paper changes in the cell-body, neuronophagia, changes in the nerve fibers of the ganglion, hemorrhage, softening and cyst-formation in the ganglion.

Frankl-Hochwart has studied the brain of the mole. This animal is completely blind, and therefore it is useful in the study of the visual system. He concludes that the habenula, the subthalamic body and the posterior commissure are not part of the visual system. The external geniculate body is not altogether deficient in the mole, but is very insignificant, and from this Frankl-Hochwart concludes that the external geniculate body may have some minor function in addition to that of vision. There is no indication of nuclei of nerves to ocular muscles in the mole, and yet the posterior longitudinal bundle is well developed, so that the portion of this bundle which unites the nuclei of ocular nerves cannot be very large. The root of the seventh nerve is well developed in the mole, while the sixth nucleus is absent, and this is further proof of the correctness of the now generally accepted teaching that the seventh nerve has no origin in the sixth nucleus.

The case reported by Spieler was one of lipoma of the corpora quadrigemina, arising from the pia. This seems to be the fourth case of lipoma of this region. References to the literature on this rare tumor of the central nervous system are given. When intracranial lipoma does occur it is more common in the aged than in the young.

Marburg has a paper on the granular layer in the olfactory bulb of the guinea pig.

Karplus reports two cases of aneurism of intracranial arteries; one, an aneurism of the posterior communicating artery, was found in a person who had had migraine. The migraine was supposed to have been inherited, and not to have been caused by the aneurism, but it is probable that the vasomotor disturbances occurring during the attacks of migraine contributed to the formation of the aneurism. Probably a tendency to vascular disease also was inherited.

The second case was one of aneurism of the internal carotid. The diagnosis was made during the life of the patient, and the common carotid artery was tied. The patient, a woman, sixty-nine years of age, felt suddenly severe pain in the left side of her head. Constant headache and roaring in the left ear developed. Three days later left-sided ptosis and diplopia were noticed. A rhythmical murmur in the head, synchronous with the pulse, especially distinct on the left side, could be heard by the examiner. Compression of the left carotid artery caused the murmur to disappear. As general symptoms were not observed at the beginning of the attack, rupture of the aneurism with diffuse hemorrhage seemed improbable. The rupture occurred into the cavernous sinus and yet no signs of obstructed circulation were found in the eyeball, and the eyeball did not pulsate. Karplus discusses the dangers of ligation of the common carotid, especially in reference to cerebral softening and thrombosis.

Imamura's paper is devoted to the anatomy of the choroid plexus of man.

Zappert describes a fissure sometimes found in the posterior part of the lateral column, and which may penetrate deeply into this column. It is present only in the cervical and upper thoracic regions, and probably is not a pathological condition.

A long paper by Obersteiner and Redlich is on the fasciculus subcallosus and the fasciculus fronto-occipitalis.

Berl has studied the relation of the visual tracts to the anterior colliculi of the corpora quadrigemina.

Schacherl has a paper on the anatomy of Clarke's columns, and gives numerous references to the literature on the subject.

A short paper by Obersteiner on the fissure in the lateral column already referred to, completes this important collection of papers. Complete agenesia of the pyramidal tracts alone is not sufficient, he thinks, for the formation of this fissure, but there must also be a tendency to fissure formation. SPILLER.

SYPHILIS UND NERVENSYSTEM. Siebenzehn Vorlesungen von Dr. Max Nonne. Oberarzt am Allgemeinen Krankenhaus, Hamburg. Eppendorf. Mit 42 Abbildungen im Text. Verlag von S. Karger, Berlin, 1902.

In 1887 Rumpf published his well-known monograph on syphilis of the nervous system; in 1897 Oppenheim contributed a very thorough article on syphilis of the brain to Nothnagel's System, and now Nonne of Hamburg sees fit to issue a series of seventeen lectures